



Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

**Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology
Influenza Weekly Report
Arkansas 2014-2015**

Week Ending Saturday 11/08/2014

Dirk Haselow, MD, PhD

State Epidemiologist, Medical Director, Communicable Diseases

Shirley Louie, MS, CIH

Deputy State Epidemiologist, Epidemiology Branch Chief

Prepared by:

Haytham Safi, MD, MPH

Influenza Surveillance Coordinator

Haytham.Safi@Arkansas.gov

501-661-2920

David Holcomb, MS, PHP Epidemiologist

During flu season the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) produces this Weekly Influenza Report for clinicians. The report provides information on flu activity in the state. The report also compares influenza-like illness (ILI) in Arkansas to activity in the US. ADH receives detailed reports of only a small fraction of flu cases. Therefore, it is important to understand that the information in the weekly update is representative of the timing and location of activity, but it does not reflect the overall burden of disease. It is presumed that there are many more people actually affected than the report shows.

Report Summary:

- Since September 28, 2014 (week 40), over 220 positive influenza antigen tests have been reported to Arkansas Department of Health by healthcare providers. Reports for week 45 received from the following counties: Benton, Bradley, Craighead, Crawford, Faulkner, Franklin, Garland, Jefferson, Lonoke, Pulaski, Sebastian, and Washington Counties.
- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between A and B strains, 68% were A, and 32% were B.
- Four samples confirmed Positive last week for influenza by PCR testing; three of them were A H3N2 and one B.
- About 4.9% of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were there for ILI.
- Arkansas reported “Sporadic” influenza activity to CDC for week 45.
- Nationwide, the geographic spread of influenza in Guam was reported as widespread; two states reported regional activity; Puerto Rico and three states reported local activity; the District of Columbia and 40 states reported sporadic activity; and five states reported no influenza activity.
- You can view the weekly influenza report during the influenza season at:
<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/FluReport.aspx>

For Additional National and International Influenza Surveillance Information:

Google Flu Trends: Google Flu Trends uses aggregated Google search data in a model created in collaboration with CDC to estimate influenza activity in the United States. For more information and activity estimates from the U.S. and worldwide, <http://www.google.org/flutrends/us/#US>.

World Health Organization FluNet: Additional influenza surveillance information from participating WHO member nations is available at http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html.

CDC - Seasonal Influenza (Flu) - WeeklyReport: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> and flu activity surveillance: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm>

Flu near you: <https://flunearyou.org/>. Please sign up and forward to your staff!

2014-2015 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 45: 11/02/14 - 11/08/14)

Death Report for Week 45

- Deaths from all causes: 447
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 20
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 0

Cumulative Flu Deaths since 9/28/2014

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 0
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 0

ER Visits*

- Week Ending: 11/08/2014**
Weighted Average: 4.9% (38 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 14,678
– Visits with ILI: 722
- Previous Week**
Weighted Average: 5.1% (38 Hospitals)
– Total Visits: 14,867
– Visits with ILI: 764

*% is the number of ILI visits*100/Total Visits

Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- PCR Confirmed:**
– Cumulative: 2
– Week ending 11/08/2014: 1
- ILI or Antigen Tested (Provisional):**
– Cumulative: 17
– Week ending 11/08/2014: 6

Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers



PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

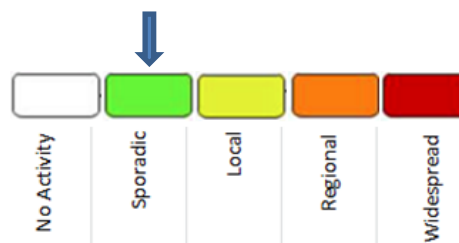
- Total Cases in September 2014: 8
- Total Cases since 09/28/2014: 25
- Week Ending 11/08/2014: 4

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week45	Other Labs Week45	Cumulative Cases Since 9/28/2014
A+	0	0	0
B+	0	1	1
B/Victoria	0	0	5
B/ Yamagata	0	0	0
H1N1+	0	0	0
H3+	3	0	19
Unsubtypable	0	0	0
Total	3	1	25
Negative	3	--	

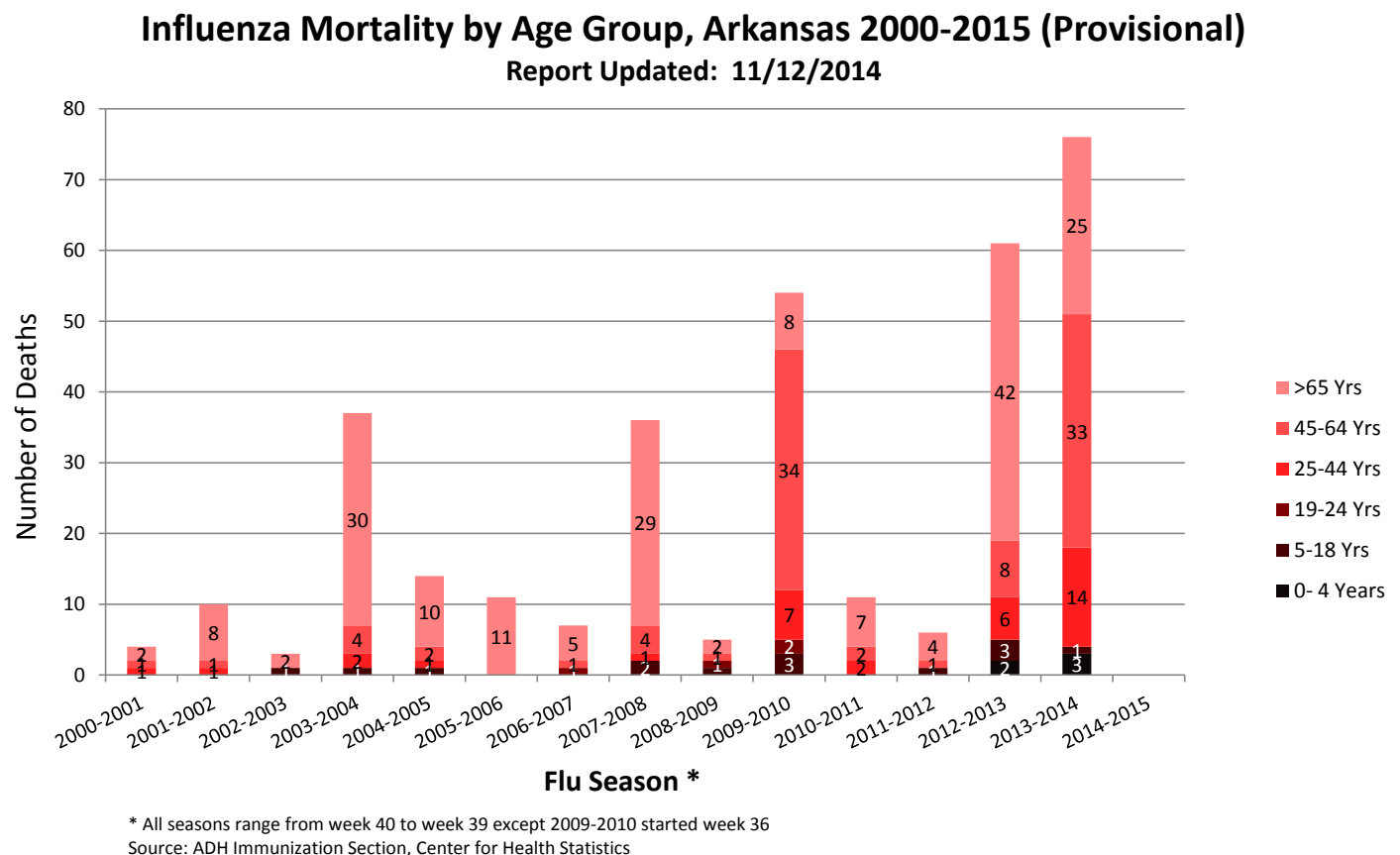
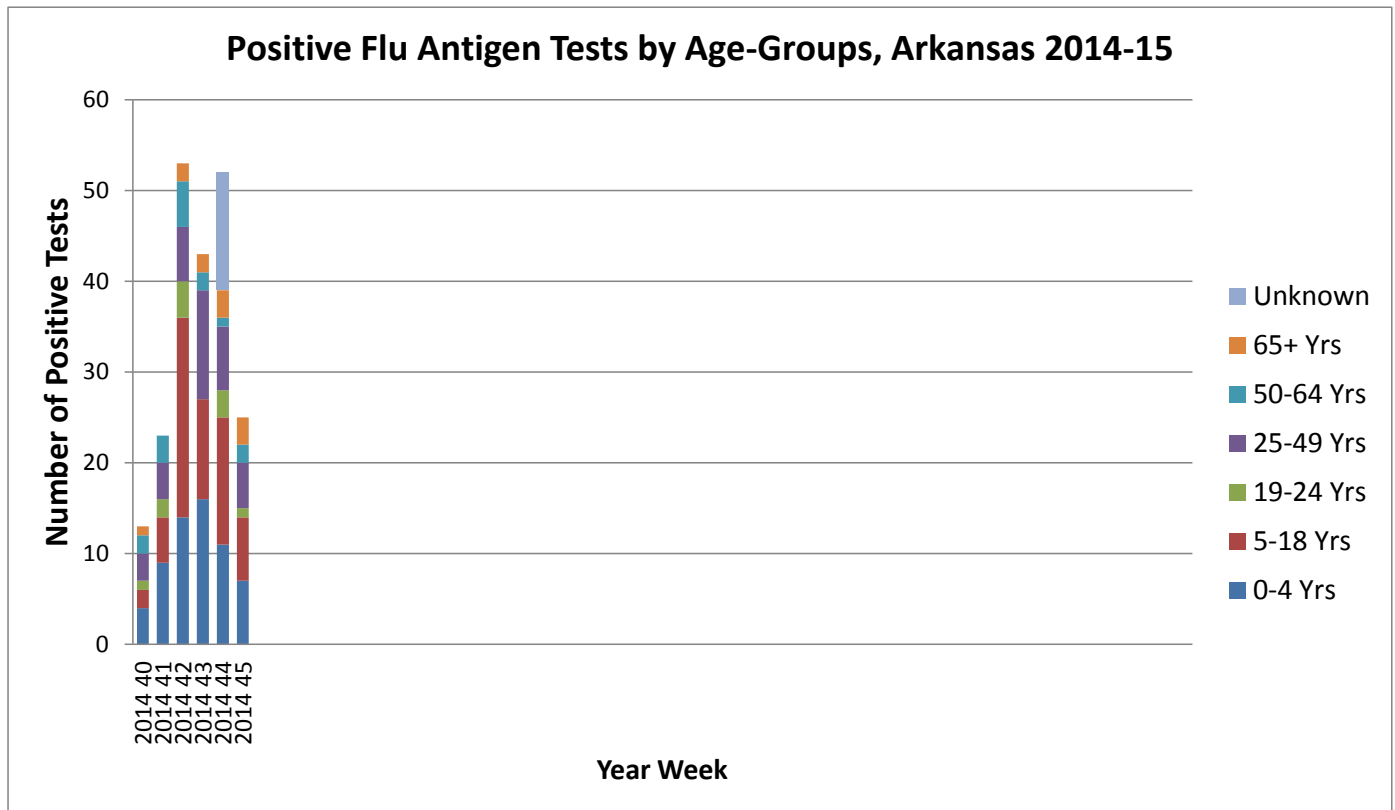
PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 09/28/2014

Age Groups	PCR+	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr	4	0	0
5-18 yr	14	2	0
19-24 yr	2	0	0
25-49 yr	1	0	0
50-64 yr	1	0	0
>= 65 yr	3	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	25	2	0

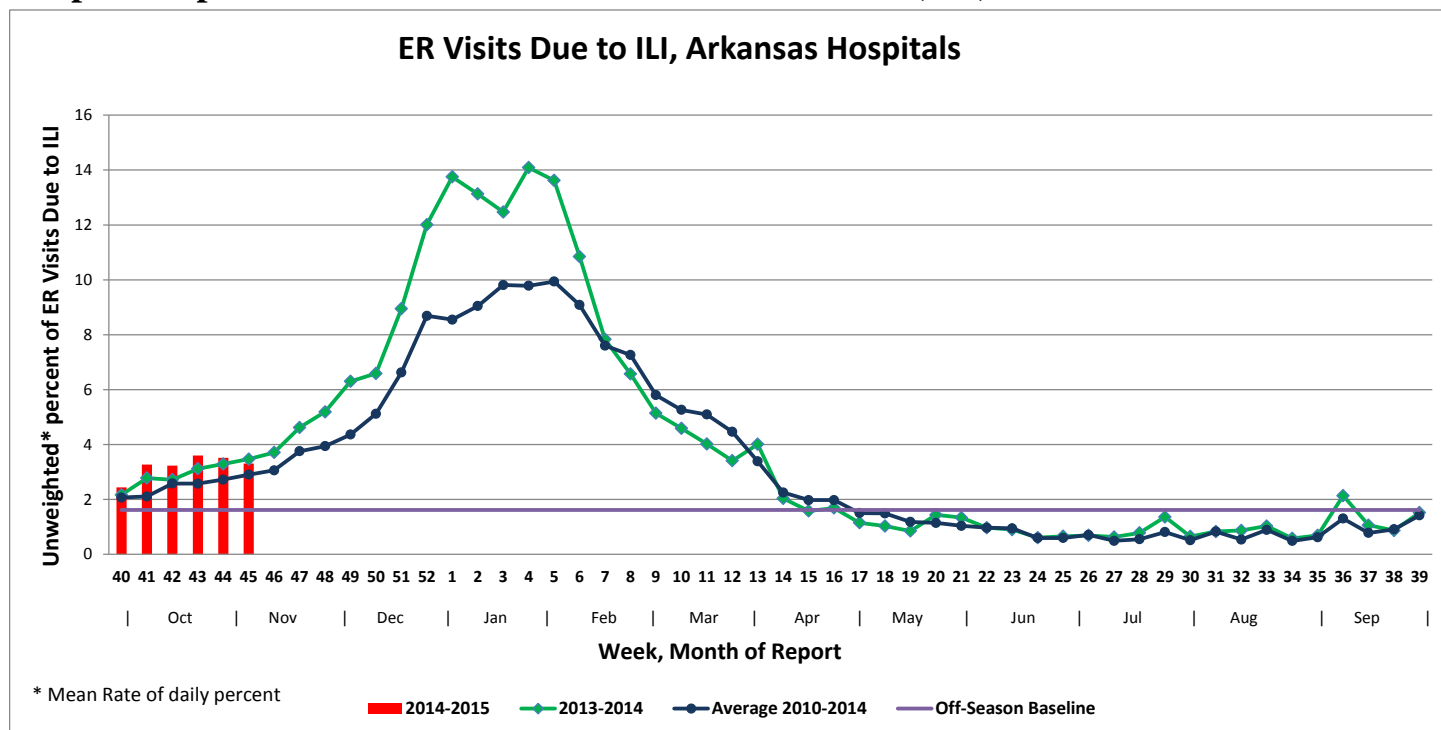
Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 45:



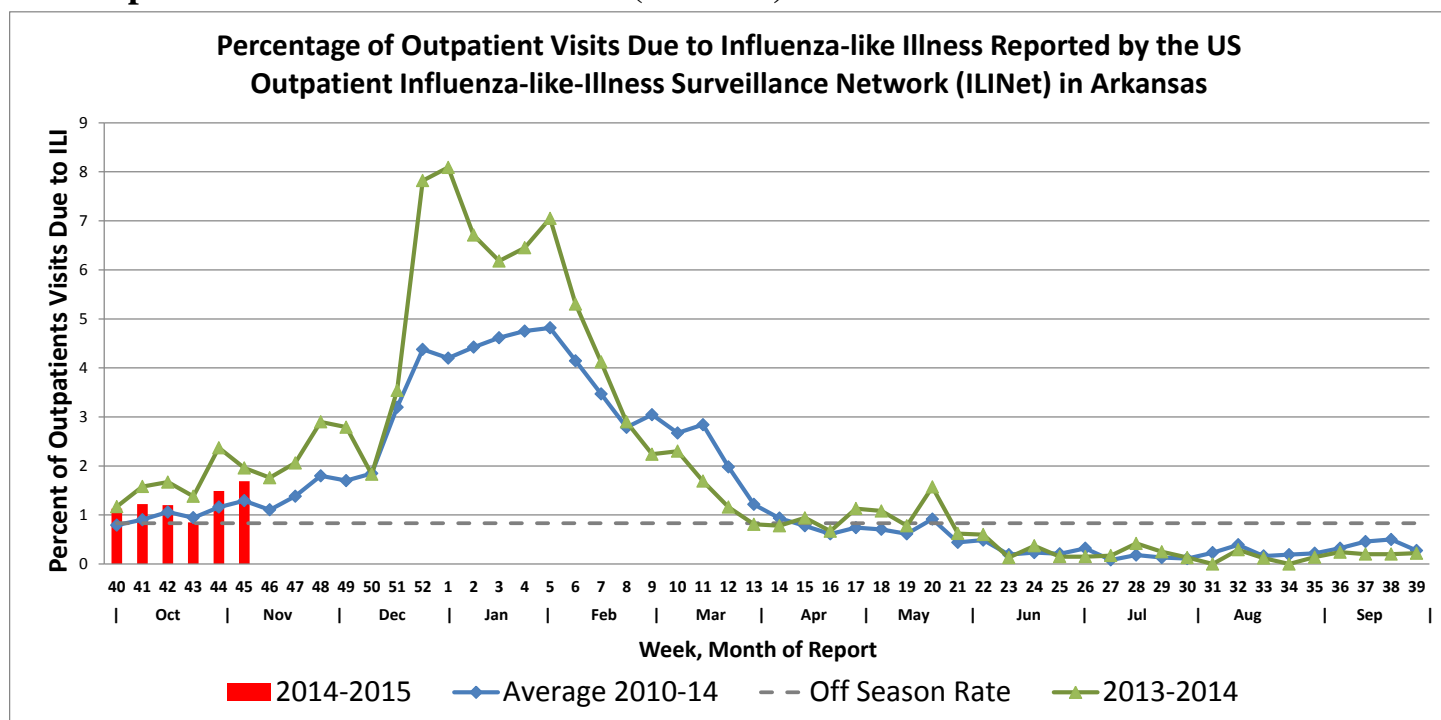
Antigen Report:



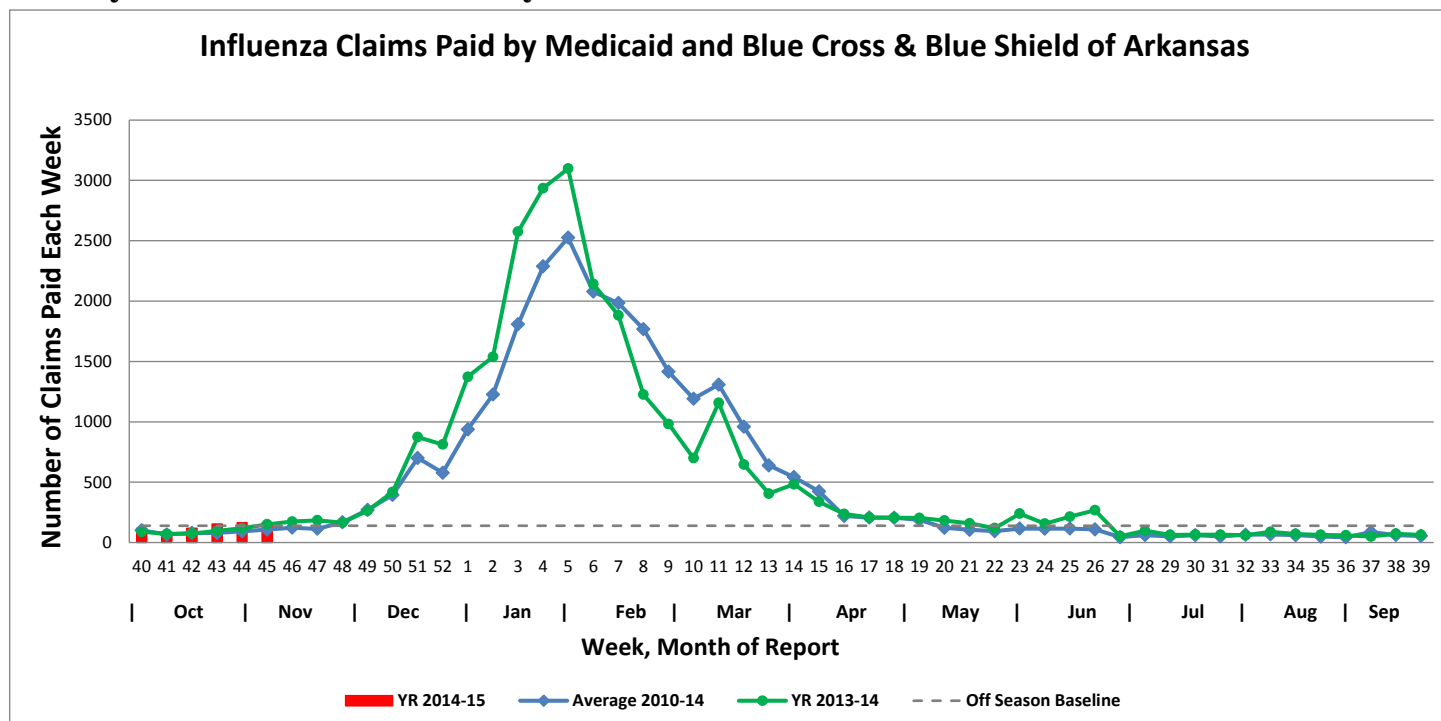
Hospital Report – ER Visits With Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI)



US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)

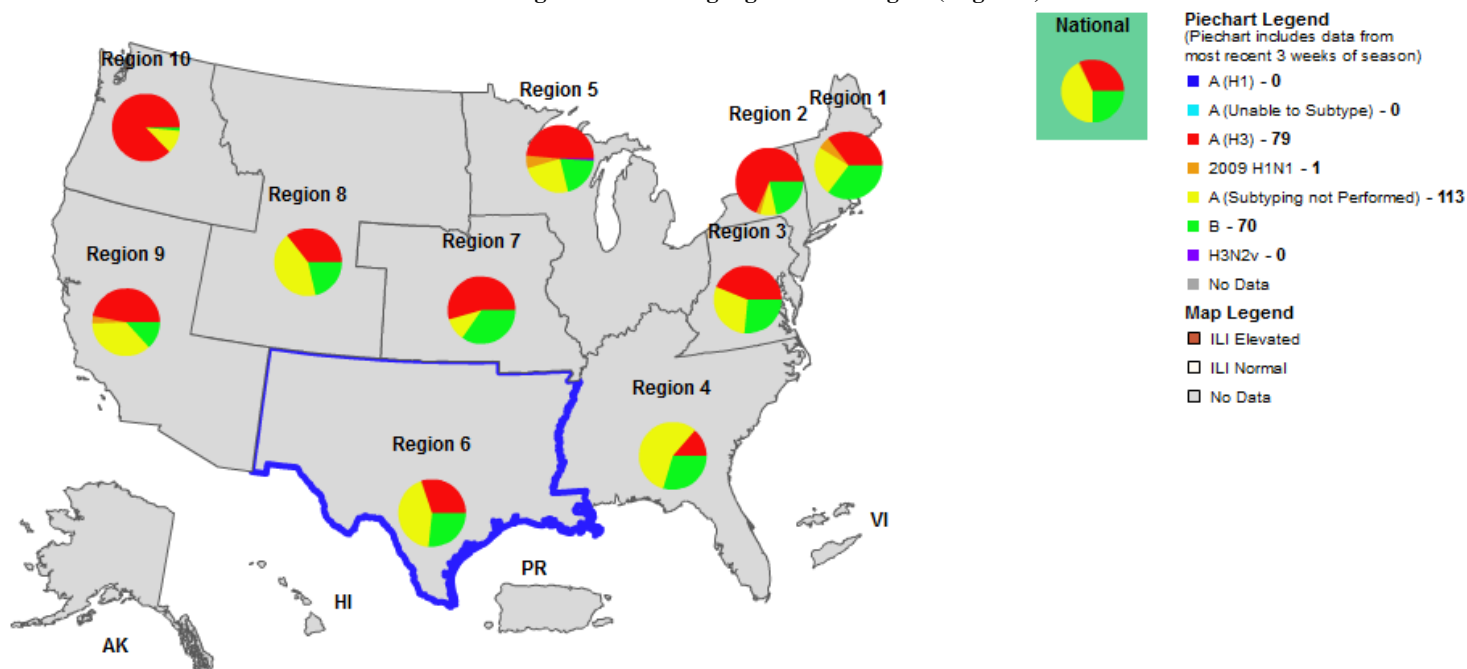


Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS

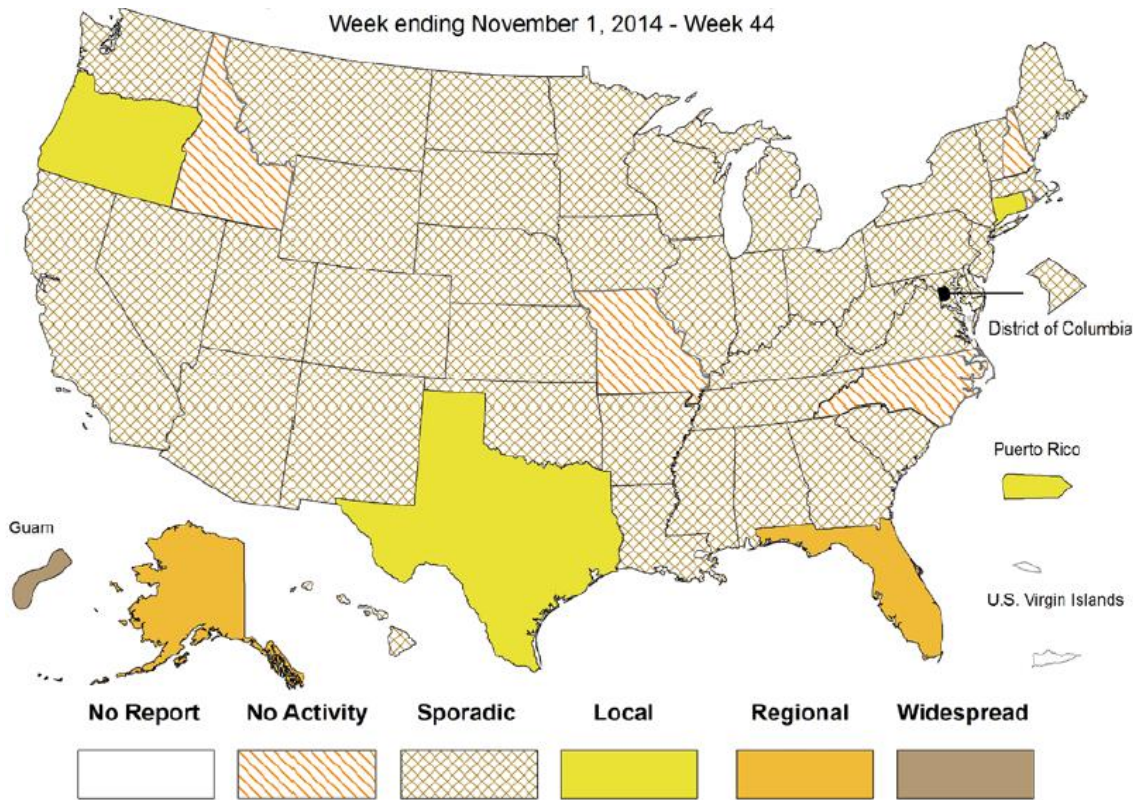


Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2014-2015 Season, Week Ending Oct 31, 2014

Values in legend is for the highlighted HHS region (Region 6)



Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists



Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week: 45: Sporadic

Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2014-15

